10th March 1960]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

"That, with reference to rule 154 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect nine Members to be members of the Committee Committee for the financial year 1960–61."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to inform the House that, in accordance with Regulation 2 (1) framed for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix the following programme for election of nine members to the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1960–61 :—

Time and date for the receipt of nominations.	**Till 5 p.m. on 18th March 1960.**
Time and date for the scrutiny of nominations.	**12 Noon on 21st March 1960.**
Time and date for the withdrawal of nominations.	**4 p.m. on 21st March 1960.**
Poll, if necessary	**Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 24th March 1960.**

Nomination forms can be had from the Secretary to the Council.

(2) ELECTION OF SIX MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

"That, with reference to rule 171 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect six Members to be members of the House Committee for the financial year 1960–61."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

"That, with reference to rule 171 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect six Members to be members of the House Committee for the financial year 1960–61."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to inform the House that, in accordance with Regulation 2 (1) framed for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix the following programme for

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election of six members to the House Committee for the financial year 1960–61 :—

Time and date for the receipt of nominations.	5 p.m. on 18th March 1960.
Time and date for the scrutiny of nominations.	1 p.m. on 21st March 1960.
Time and date for the withdrawal of nominations.	5 p.m. on 21st March 1960.
Poll, if necessary	Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 24th March 1960.

Nomination forms can be had from the Secretary to the Council.

V.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1960-61.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I have the honour to present to this House the Budget Estimates for the year 1960-61 and the Revised Estimates for the current year. Copies of the Budget Speech * of the Finance Minister are with hon. Members and I shall only refer to the broad features.

The Budget as now framed is reasonably well-balanced. While presenting the Budget for the current year, we had indicated that the anticipated revenue surplus of Rs. 139 lakhs would be completeley wiped off by the increase in dearness allowances of Rs. 5 sanctioned from 1st Januray 1959. The revised estimates for the current year, however, reveal a slightly more hopeful prospect and show a revenue surplus of Rs. 58 lakhs. The Budget Estimates for 1960–61 anticipate a deficit of Rs. 34 lakhs. But in a Revenue Budget of the order of Rs. 81 crores, this deficit is not very significant. We have not, therefore, proposed any additional taxation, a fact, which I am sure, will be received with satisfaction by all sections of this House. (Hear, hear). I may, however, mention a few disturbing thoughts. We have made only a token provision towards the grants due to Panchayats and Panchayat Unions which are now being constituted under the new Act. The statutory grants due to these local bodies when the State is fully covered, may amount to Rs. 5 or 6 crores. A portion of that outlay is already being covered by the existing educational and road development grants. But the balance to be made up will be substantial when all the 360 Panchayat Unions are constituted. Seventy-five Panchayat Unions will be formed during the coming year and provision will have to be made in due course for the grants due to these institutions. The Report of the State Pay Commission is expected very soon and this may lead to very considerable recurring additional outlay. It is not, therefore, unlikely that the Revised Estimates for 1960–61 will show a very large deficit.

* Printed as Appendix on pages 27–143 infra.